

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JERUSA 02263 311042Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----050331 311046Z /12

O R 311005Z DEC 77
FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9944
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L JERUSALEM 2263

EXDIS

DEPARTMENT PASS SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MILI, MOPS, PBOR, XF, IS, LE
SUBJ: INCREASED MILITARY ACTIVITY IN SOUTHERN LEBANON

1. UN SOURCE REPORTS DECEMBER 31 THAT SOUTHERN LEBANON HAS HEATED UP IN PAST TWO DAYS. UNMO'S FROM FOUR OP'S HAVE REPORTED OUTBREAKS OF FIRING BETWEEN CHRISTIAN AND LEFTIST FORCES, SOME OVER PROLONGED PERIODS.

2. IN NAQOURA AREA, DURING AFTERNOON OF DECEMBER 29, A CHRISTIAN FORCE CONSISTING OF ONE TANK, ONE M-113, AND TWO HALF TRACKS SORTIED OUT FROM AALMA ECH CHAAB, TOOK UP POSITION OVERLOOKING NAQOURA, AND COMMENCED FIRING. PLO FORCES AROUND NAQOURA RESPONDED. ACTION LASTED FOR OVER AN HOUR AND WAS OBSERVED BY BOTH UN STATION AT NAQOURA AND OP LAB.
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ON DECEMBER 30, THERE WAS FIRING BETWEEN CHRISTIAN FORCES IN AALMA ECH CHAAB AND LEFTIST FORCES IN CHAMAA.

3. OP RAS REPORTED SPORADIC ARTILLERY, SMALL ARMS AND AUTOMATIC FIRING ALL DAY DECEMBER 30 BETWEEN CHRISTIAN FORCES AT AIN EBEL AND LEFTIST FORCES IN BENT JBAIL.

4. OP KHIAM REPORTED FIRING FROM CHRISTIAN FORCES IN EL QLAIA
AND AROUND EL MERI EAST OF KHIAM ON DECEMBER 29.

5. COMMENT: AFTER LONG PERIOD OF RELATIVE QUIET, THESE TWO
DAYS REPORTS REFLECT SIGNIFICANT STEP-UP IN ACTIVITY BETWEEN
CHRISTIAN AND LEFTIST IN SOUTHERN LEBANON. ON PERSONAL BASIS,
UN SOURCE THOUGHT THAT, IN SEVERAL CASES, FIRING WAS CLEARLY
INITIATED BY CHRISTIANS. NO REPORTS OF CROSS-BORDER FIRING
OR CONFIRMATION OF IDF INVOLVEMENT ALTHOUGH VILLAGERS IN AALMA
ECH CHAAB TELL UNMO'S THAT IDF COMES OVER EVERY NIGHT INTO
AREA.
NEWLIN

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED SECRETARY.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY EXERCISES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 31-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977JERUSA02263
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780004-0332
Format: TEL
From: JERUSALEM
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977121/aaaaaapd.tel
Line Count: 76
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: eee020fb-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 101306
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INCREASED MILITARY ACTIVITY IN SOUTHERN LEBANON
TAGS: MILI, MOPS, PBOR, XF, IS, LE
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/eee020fb-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009